Enterprise Architecture Technical Domain Team Guidance

This document provides the current technical domain definitions. To best meet the needs of VITA and the Commonwealth's agencies, VITA may order the domains, developing the most critical first, or limit the domain team's initial work to addressing the most critical issues first. A domain may address technical topics in stages. For example, the platform domain team decided to address servers, personal computing and storage architectures immediately and control of printers and faxing at a later date. Guidance to the enterprise architecture domain teams may include the identification of specific issues that would be most beneficial to address immediately. Domain definitions are clarified and made more specific by the domain teams. The original definitions were proposed by a Council on Technology Services workgroup

Architecture Domain Definitions to Date

Present State	Technical Domains	Domain Definitions (as of 3-8-04)
Domain Report; ITRM	Network	The Network Architecture defines a communications infrastructure model for the Commonwealth. It defines the various technologies required to enable connections among governmental units and their citizen and business sector constituents.
Domain Report; ITRM	Middleware	Middleware Architecture defines the functions that enable communications in a distributed system and the tools that improve the overall usability of an existing architecture made up of products from many different vendors on multiple platforms. Middleware is software that allows organizations to share data between disparate systems that do not communicate easily. Middleware has been described as the software "glue" that ties different applications together.
Domain Report; ITRM	Security	The Security Architecture defines the set of components required for a comprehensive Commonwealth security program. It also defines for each component the technologies, standards, practices and policies, which are needed to protect information assets and ensure authorized access. In this manner, the Security Architecture supports and promotes the consistent and effective development and implementation of Security programs by the State's Agencies and across the enterprise.
Domain Report	Platform	The Platform Architecture defines the personal and business computing hardware systems to be used by agencies. The platforms may include servers (e.g., high-end servers and midrange to small servers), storage systems, personal computing devices (desktops, notebooks, and hand-held computing devices), and other hardware (e.g., printers). In addition to platform hardware, the Platform Architecture addresses operating systems, configurations, network and device-to-device interfaces, and selected peripherals (e.g., floppy drives). In the instance of personal computing devices, the architecture also addresses base productivity software, security software, and utilities that are necessary to make the hardware useful to users. The architecture addresses decision criteria and best practices for the acquisition and deployment of platforms.

Present State	Technical Domains	Domain Definitions (as of 3-8-04)
EA Proposed Definition; No Domain Team	Database	The Database Architecture defines the technical components of the software systems that support storage and retrieval of data. Database architecture defines the types of database software that will support the applications.
EA Proposed Definition; No Domain Team	Systems Management	The Systems Management Architecture defines how the hardware and software components of the infrastructure will be monitored and controlled. Systems management includes the automation and control of platforms and associated resources, networks and applications and the coordination and control of work flowing through the infrastructure systems. It focuses on issues of configuration management, event and state management, fault detection and isolation, performance measurement, and problem reporting.
EA Proposed Definition; No Domain Team	Information	The Information Architecture describes the logical structure of databases and the methodology used to correlate data in multiple databases. The information architecture provides a framework for defining responsibility for data integrity and distribution.
EA Proposed Definition; No Domain Team	Application	The Application Architecture defines how applications are designed and how they cooperate. Application architecture promotes common presentation standards to facilitate rapid training and implementation of new applications and functions. Good application architecture enables a high level of system integration, reuse of components and rapid deployment of applications in response to changing business requirements.